

GROWING ROSES IN THE SHADE

Shade Tolerant Roses

(This article by Al Ford first appeared in the July-August 2001 MRS Newsletter. With trees in full leaf and cicadas in full throttle, here are some ideas for roses in partially shaded areas)

Most Consulting Rosarians and the literature on rose care recommend that roses be grown under conditions in which they receive at least 5 to 6 hours of sunlight per day. Rose gardens often have a variety of locations in which the amount of daily sunlight differs, sometimes considerably. These areas seem to fall into a number of categories.

1. Full sunlight throughout the day.
2. Full sunlight for approximately half the day.
3. Partial sunlight for a part of the day.
4. Dappled sunlight, where partial shade is provided by trees, vegetation or structures of some type.
5. Complete shade, as for example, under a densely canopied tree.

It is generally inadvisable to try to grow roses under a densely canopied tree for two reasons. The diminished sunlight, of course, and the competition for moisture. Full sunlight for half of the day or more poses no problem, however, some roses will fare better if not exposed to sunlight for the entire day. That, however, is beyond the scope of this article. Here we are concerned with varieties that seem to do well under conditions described in #3 and #4 above, partial sun or dappled sun. To conclude that roses can not be grown successfully with less than 6 hours of full sunlight is an error and deprives the gardener of the enjoyment and beauty of the rose in shaded parts of their garden.

As you might suspect, there is considerable information available on the web on this subject. For example, Kent E. Krugh, a rosarian has done a tremendous job of isolating the names of varieties from the literature and has compiled the data by author and classification of rose. His site can be reached at:

<http://w.3goodnews.net/~kkrugh/index.html>

Those varieties of roses acknowledged by two or more authors as "Shade Tolerant Roses" from his listing are shown below. Because of the scarcity of Hybrid Teas and Floribundas, the list includes those mentioned by just one of the sources. Names in parenthesis are alternate names. The meaning of classification symbols (American Rose Society) can be found on page 9 of this newsletter.

VARIETY	CLASS	COLOR
<u>Climbers & Ramblers</u>		
Albéric Barbier	HWich	light yellow
Altissimo	LCI	medium red
American Pillar	HWich	pink blend
City of York	LCI	white
Golden Showers	LCI	med. yellow
Léontine Geraiis	LCI	apricot blend
Mermaid	HBc	light yellow
New Dawn	LCI	light pink
Velchenblau	HMult	mauve
Zéphirine Drouhin	B	medium pink
<u>Old Garden Roses</u>		
Alan Blanchard	HGal	mauve
Alba Semi-plena	A	white

Amy Robsart	E	deep pink
Assemblage de Beautés	HGal	dark red
Blush Noisette	N	white
Queen of Bourbons	B	light pink
Complicata	HGal	pink blend
Duchesse de Montebello	HGal	light pink
Félicité Parmentier	A	light pink
Fruhlingsgold	HSpn	med. yellow
Greenmantle	HEg	red blend
Henri Martin	M	medium red
Honorine de Brabant	B	pink blend
Marchese Boccella	HP	light pink
Königin von Dänemark	A	medium pink
Louise Odier	B	deep pink
Maiden's Blush	A	white
Mme. Alfred Carrieré	N	white
Mme. Legras de St Germain	A	white
Mme. Plantier	A	white
Rose du Roi	P	medium red
Souvenir du Docteur Jamain	HP	dark red
Stanwell Perpetual	HSpn	white

Shrub Roses

Canary Bird	S	deep yellow
Cerise Bouquet	S	deep pink
Constance Spry (Ausfirst)	S	light pink
Fred Loads	S	orange red
Henry Kelsey	S	medium red
Pearl Drift	S	white
Scharlachglut (Scarlet Fire)	S	dark red

Hybrid Musks

Ballerina	HMask	medium pink
Buff Beauty	HMask	apricot blend
Cornelia	HMask	pink blend
Damaë	HMask	light yellow
Erfurt	HMask	pink blend
Felicia	HMask	pink blend
Lavender Lassie	HMask	mauve
Penelope	HMask	light pink

Hybrid Regosas

Blanc Double de Coubert	HRg	white
Fimbriata	HRg	light pink
Max Graf (R. jacksonii)	HRg	pink blend
Rosaraie de l'Hay	HRg	dark red

Hybrid Teas

Dainty Bess	HT	light pink
Irish Fireflame	HT	orange blend

Lady X	HT	mauve
Limelight	HT	light yellow
Mister Lincoln	HT	dark red

Floribundas

Amberlight	F	yellow blend
Betty Prior	F	medium pink
Escapade	F	mauve
Eutin	F	dark red
Festival Fanfare	F	pink blend
Grüss an Aachen	F	light pink
Jubille Celebration	F	pink blend
Iceberg	F	white
Little Darling	F	yellow blend
Playgirl	F	medium pink

Polyanthas

Cécile Brünner	Pol	light pink
Clotilde Soupert	Pol	white
Marie-Jeanne	Pol	white
Marie Pavie	Pol	white
Mignonette	Pol	light pink
Phyllis Bide	Cl Pol	yellow blend
The Fairy	Pol	light pink

Species

R. banksiae lutea	Sp	light yellow
R. banksiae banksiae	Sp	white
R. moschata nepalensis (La Mortola)	Sp	white
R. eglanteria	Sp	light pink
R. sericea (Heather Muir)	Sp	white
R. wichurana	Sp	white
R. elegantula (Persetosa)	Sp	medium pink
Kiftsgate (R. filipes 'Kiftsgate')	Sp	white
R. glauca	Sp	medium pink
R. nutkana	Sp	medium pink
R. palustris (Swamp Rose)	Sp	medium pink
R. spinossima (R. pimpinellifolia) (Scotch Rose)	Sp	white
R. xanthina	Sp	med.yellow

A few gardens of members of the Rose Society tend to confirm some of the choices available for shade tolerant roses and have included others for this area.

Beth and John Kerr's lovely rose garden in Monkton, MD, a delightful mixture of Old Garden Roses and Modern Roses, has a variety of sun conditions during the day with some locations of partial sunlight only or dappled

sun. Beth recommends a number of varieties for partial sun.

VARIETY

COLOR

Hybrid Teas

Garden Party	white
Just Joey	orange blend
Swarthmore	pink blend
Voodoo	orange blend

Floribundas

French Lace	white
Grüss an Aachen	light pink
Iceberg	white
Playboy	red blend
Playgirl	medium pink
Regensburg	pink blend

Bourbons

Honorine de Brabant	pink blend
Mme. Ernest Calvat	medium pink
Mme. Isaac Pereier	deep pink
Mme. Lauriol de Barny	light pink

Hybrid Musks

Ballerina	medium pink
Lavender Lassie	mauve
Marjorie Fair	(red form of Ballerina)

Shrub Roses

Alchymist	apricot blend
Autumn Sunset	apricot blend:
Cornelia	red blend
Lovely Fairy	(red form of The Fairy)
Lyda Rose	white (single)
The Fairy	light pink (Polyantha)
Sally Holmes	white (single)
Westerland	apricot blend

Climbers

Aloha	medium red
Antique 89	red blend
Awakening	light pink
Cécile Brunner	light pink (climbing form)
Clair Matin	medium pink
Climbing Iceberg	white
Dublin Bay	medium red
Galway Bay	orange pink
New Dawn	light pink
Rosarium Utersen	deep pink
White New Dawn	white
Zéphérine Drouhen	medium pink (Bourbon)

Rugosas

Blanc Double de Coubert	white
<i>R. rugosa rubra</i>	mauve (Species)

China

Mutabilis	yellow blend (Hybrid China) [single]
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The garden of Larry and Bonnie Norkitis, located in Essex, MD, is the finest example of a small garden devoted primarily to roses that I have seen. This spring their garden was spectacular in color and in the arrangement of the numerous varieties. Larry is a specialist in Old Garden Roses by knowledge and interest and has a fine collection. There are a number of trees in his garden and many of his roses thrive in less than 6 hours of sun a day. Larry lists as “Shade Tolerant Roses” the following.

Hybrid Teas

Peace	yellow blend
Belami	orange pink

Floribunda:

Vogue	pink blend
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Grandiflora:

Camelot	orange pink
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Shrub Roses:

Graham Thomas	deep yellow
Heritage	light pink
Othello	medium red

Species:

<i>R. roxburghii</i>	medium pink
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Old Garden Roses:

Variety	Class	Color
Ardoisée de Lyon	HP	mauve
Belle de Crécy	G	mauve
Celestial	A	light pink
Crested Moss	M	medium pink
Gloire de Dijon Cl T	orange pink	
Königin von Dänemark	A	medium pink
Magnifica	HEg	mauve
Mme. de la		
Rôche-Lambert	M	mauve
Mme. Isaac Pereire	B	deep pink
Mary Queen of Scots	HSpn	white
Rose de Meaux	C	medium pink

Other Modern Roses:

Dart's Dash	HRg	dark red
Fimbriata	HRg	white
Pax	HMSk	white

Some other varieties that are shade tolerant in your Editor's garden are:

Garisenda	HWich	pink blend
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White Tausendschön	HMult	white
Russelliana	HMult	mauve
<i>R. glauca</i>	Sp	medium pink
Nozami	ClMin	light pink
Parade	LCl	deep pink
Dorothy Perkins	HWich	light pink
Baltimore Belle	HSet	light pink
Compassion	LCl	orange pink
Harison's Yelow	HFt	deep yellow
The Fairy	Pol	light pink
<i>R. spinosissima</i>	Sp	white
Various rugosas	Rg	various
Various gallicas	G	various

Should readers know of other varieties for this list, please let your Editor know their names.

